Electrification of Ranaghat-Gede section

330. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electrification of Ranaghat-Gede section is proposed to be taken up during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for improvement of train services in this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to low traffic density, constraint of resources and relative priorities for electrification of other high density routes, there is, at present, no proposal to electrify Ranaghat-Gede section.

(d) Improvement of train service is a continous process in Indian Railways. At present, 12 pairs of services adequately meet the traffc demand of Ranaghat-Gede section. Additional services will be introduced as and when traffic justifies subject to operational feasibility.

Double line and electrification of Santipur Nabadweep Ghat Railway line

331. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying double line and electrification of Santipur-Nabadweep Ghat railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are:—Length—28 Kms, Cost- Rs. 34.36 crores, Rate of return: Negative.

(c) Owing to constraint of resources and unremunerative nature of the project, it has not been found possible to consider this project for implementation.

Increasing the EMU Coaches between Howrah and Haldia Section

332. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the frequency of EMU coaches between Howrah and Haldia sections of S. E. Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Introduction of Passenger Trains between Purulia and Dhanbad

333. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to introduce passenger trains between Purulia and Dhanbad;

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government so far in this regard; and

(d) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHR K. C. LENKA): (a) to (d) the proposal to introduce an express